



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs

Agricultural  
Marketing  
Service

Washington, DC  
20250

December 6, 2006

## ***NOTICE TO THE TRADE***

### **ANNUAL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE FOR CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS IN USDA'S FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAMS**

The Fruit & Vegetable Programs of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), an Agency in the Marketing and Regulatory Programs mission area, is proposing to have its annual conference to discuss AMS commodity purchase and distribution programs.

We are proposing that the meeting be held in the Chicago, IL area, in late April 2007. The meeting structure will be similar to last year's meeting, which included fewer presentations and more open forums to promote discussion. Some of the topics that we plan to discuss include:

**Commodity Procurement Branch Re-organization**  
**Changes to Contracting Requirements**  
**Purchase Schedules**  
**Electronic Notices to Deliver**  
**Payment Issues**  
**Changes to USDA labels**

We encourage you to provide additional suggestions regarding topics that you would like to discuss during the meeting to Michelle Warren by email no later than December 15, 2006 at [michellee.warren@usda.gov](mailto:michellee.warren@usda.gov).

We value your participation and hope you plan to attend.

Sincerely,

Dave Tuckwiller  
Chief

Commodity Procurement Branch  
Fruit and Vegetable Programs

